

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 March 2005 (03.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/020221 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:
7/005, 7/135, 7/13, 7/24, G06K 19/16

G11B 7/24,

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2004/051453

(22) International Filing Date: 12 August 2004 (12.08.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

03102612.3 20 August 2003 (20.08.2003) EP

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]**; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(72) Inventors; and

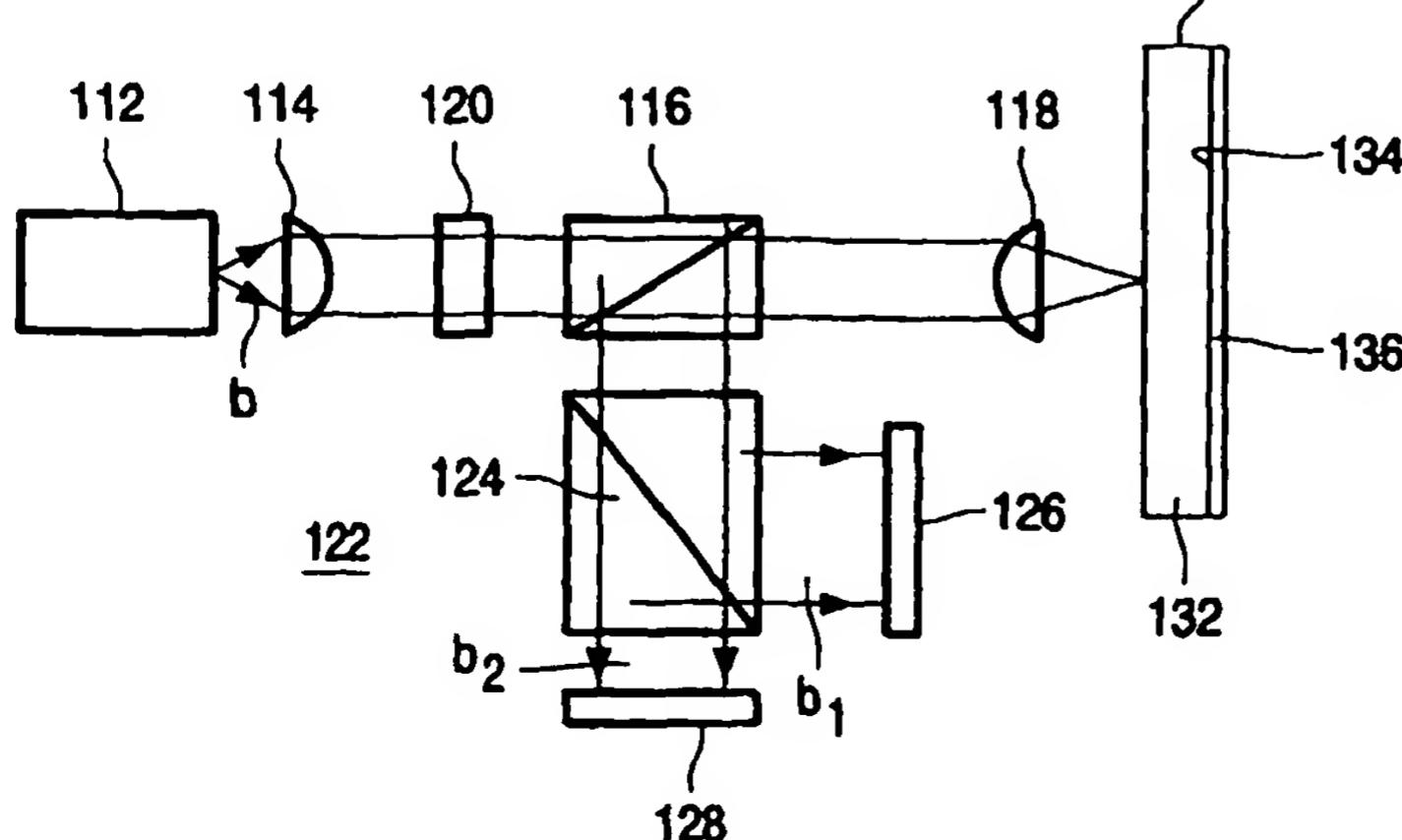
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **T HOOFT, Gert, W. [NL/NL]**; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **HENDRIKS, Robert, F., M. [NL/NL]**; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **BROER, Dirk, J. [NL/NL]**; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(74) Agent: **VISSEER, Derk**; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 26 May 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: OPTICAL RECORD CARRIER



(57) Abstract: The range of spatial frequencies of the information areas in an optical record carrier (130) that can be read by conventional means can be increased substantially by providing the information layer (134) with a birefringent diffraction grating (136) and using a read beam (b) that comprises two mutually perpendicular polarised components (b₁, b₂) only one of which will be diffracted by the grating.

WO 2005/020221 A3